

# Supply of lab animals provided for study

As you were skinning that cat in biology lab last semester, did you wonder where the animal came from?

Laboratory animal supply companies have a large business. The variety of animals used in the Texas A&M biology labs come from Houston suppliers, said Dr. William Klemm, professor of biology. The animals range from frogs and rats to mice, pigs and rabbits. They are all supplied by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The animal supply companies have current price sheets to their customers, and they offer both live and preserved specimens. Costs vary according to animal size. For instance, a four-pound, live rabbit from the Ponderosa Rabbitry in Orange, Tex., will cost \$4.50. A rabbit weighing eleven pounds may cost as much as \$9.50.

Klemm said the costs of the labora-

tory animals are mainly covered by student lab fees. Additional research or experimentation funding is provided by the University or by government grants. The type of animals used is dependent upon the particular department or professor who uses them, Klemm said.

Because laboratory animals are also used in research projects, their living conditions meet high standards, he said. The animal rooms in the basement of the new biology building are supervised by Eartha Seyfus. She is employed specifically for the care and feeding of the animals.

The veterinary school employs a wide variety of animals in research and student experimentation. Research animals range from genetically line-bred beagles to swine and baboons. In addition to radiation and cancer studies, the animals are used

for reproductive, respiratory and thyroid studies.

The Veterinary Physiology and Pharmacology Dept. alone may have thirty to forty dogs for labs during one week, said Dr. David Hood, associate professor.

"These dogs are supplied by area pounds if they are not claimed within the legal period," he said. They are housed in indoor runs with free access to food and water. The areas are cleaned two to three times daily as needed, he said.

Large animals such as horses and cattle are used by the animal science and veterinary surgery labs. Often these animals are donated to the department and raised by the personnel.

Animal experimentation procedures are designed for minimal pain for the animal, Hood said.

— Susan Brown

## Library grows

# A&M receiving noted works

Texts from two of the most noted collections of Economics and Business literature are being collected by the A&M library.

Through an agreement with Research Publishing Co. in Conn., Evans Library is receiving microfilms from the libraries of Economics of Harvard and the University of London.

The collection is the Goldsmith-Kress Library of Economic Literature containing books and other publications dating back to the late 1400s. "Students in Economics and Business will be interested in this, and to a lesser extent, English majors," said Henry L. Alsmeyer, associate director of the library.

The film of the collection comes to the University about 250 reels at a time and over 750 reels have arrived since the purchasing agreement was made in 1973. According to the agreement, \$23.25 is paid for each reel and approximately 1,500 reels are expected.

Dr. Alfred Chalk, of the economics department, was one of the first ones to become interested in the collection.

"It will give grad students access to all the rare works of these two greatest libraries," said Chalk Thursday.

When the question of whether to buy the collection came up in Library budgeting, Chalk asked people in the department to confirm the importance of the collection.

The collection includes texts in Danish, Dutch, Italian, Latin, Portuguese, Swedish, and the four

major languages in English, French, German, and Spanish.

"Virtually all of them are in English or French," said Chalk. He said that many of those interested in the collection, both professors and graduate students, are proficient in French.

# Magazines draw different interests

How many people you know take delight in "The Purple Obscenity" and "The Shameless Husky?" Probably not many, unless they are a science fiction buff, or enjoy reading up with current book reviews. These are only two of the more than 15,000 journals Evans Library subscribes to regularly.

ESP, "Ellery Queen Mystery Magazine," and comic book digests are some of the more fun journal subscriptions. Even "Playboy" is put on microfilm to be viewed.

"We must put 'Playboy' on microfilm because the magazines don't last," said Hal Hall, serials librarian. "Magazines like the centerfolds too well to leave them in the library."

Journals are obtained from foreign countries as well as the United States. Russia supplies the library with many science journals. Germany contributes a great deal of the journals covering everything from linguistics to physics. Technical journals are obtained from Lebanon, Communist China, Israel and Egypt. Until recently, the library even received journals from Vietnam. However, after the Communist takeover of the country, the library was informed that their subscription was permanently suspended.

Journals also cater to women's interests. The library carries "Redbook," "Vogue," "Good Housekeeping," and the somewhat controversial "MS."

"Cosmopolitan" is not ordered on a regular basis. However, the issue that contained the centerfold of Burt Reynolds is on hand. This was

bought, said Mr. Hall, "because it was a collectors item."

Prices of journals vary tremendously. "Chemical Abstracts," which costs \$2,000 a year, is the highest priced journal purchased. At the other extreme, "Shameless Husky," costs the library only \$1 per year. Most journals, though, average about \$30 to \$50 per year.

In addition to the regular journal subscriptions, the Library cooperates with the British Library Lending Division (BLOD). BLOD has access to more than 30,000 different journals. Stocking, in the Library, is done at the rate of 400 to 1,000 new journals per year. There is not a great increase, however, because of the many journals that go out of business during the year.

Some of the journals ordered have proven to be unusual. Mr. Hall, talking about one of his favorites, said, "We've been ordering a journal for about a year named 'Zero,' and so far, we've never received a copy."

— Cathy Cummings

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